

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 84

Saluting Florida on the 150th anniversary of Florida statehood, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 22), 1995

Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution;
which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Saluting Florida on the 150th anniversary of Florida statehood, and for other purposes.

Whereas Florida became the first State explored by Europeans when Ponce de Leon led a Spanish expedition that made landfall along the east coast in the year 1513;

Whereas Pedro Menendez de Aviles, captain-general of an invading fleet, ousted the French settlement, Fort Caroline, at the mouth of the St. Johns River, proclaimed Spanish sovereignty over Florida, and on September 8, 1565, established St. Augustine, the oldest city in the United States;

Whereas Spain, France, and England played a significant role in the development and exploration of early Florida;

Whereas President James Monroe proclaimed the Adams-Onís Treaty in which Spain ceded Florida to the United States on February 22, 1821, and appointed General Andrew Jackson as the first provisional governor of Florida;

Whereas on March 30, 1822, the United States Congress created a territorial government for Florida, following the pattern set in the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 by providing for public education and orderly political steps toward greater self-government and eventual statehood as population increased;

Whereas 56 delegates representing the 20 counties of Florida assembled in 1838 in the Panhandle town of St. Joseph to frame the first constitution of the territory in preparation for Florida statehood, who were mainly planters and lawyers, were from 13 of the 26 States then in the United States and 4 foreign countries, included only 3 natives from Florida, included 3 delegates who would later become United States Senators, included 2 governors, and included 5 members of the Florida Supreme Court;

Whereas a bill to admit Florida as a State passed the House of Representatives on February 13, 1845, and the Senate on March 1, 1845;

Whereas President John Tyler signed a bill making Florida a State on March 3, 1845, making Florida the 27th State to be admitted into the United States;

Whereas Friday, March 3, 1995, marks the 150th anniversary of Florida becoming a State;

Whereas the admission of Florida to the United States has proved to be of immense benefit both to the United States and to the State of Florida;

Whereas 96 citizens of Florida have served the United States and Florida in the House of Representatives;

Whereas 30 citizens of Florida have served the United States and Florida in the United States Senate;

Whereas numerous citizens of Florida have served in the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of the Federal Government;

Whereas citizens of Florida have fought and died in service to the United States, and 22 citizens of Florida have won the United States highest award for bravery, the Congressional Medal of Honor, protecting freedom in the United States;

Whereas Florida is the fourth largest State and is rich in natural resources and talented people;

Whereas Florida, home of the Everglades National Park, is blessed with great natural beauty, clean waters, pure air, and extraordinary scenery;

Whereas Florida is a world leader in agriculture, commercial fishing, education, financial services, horse breeding, high technology, manufacturing, phosphate production, and tourism;

Whereas Cape Canaveral, location of the first United States satellite launch and the first manned spaceship flight to the Moon, continues to play a vital and leading role in the exploration and discovery of outer space by the United States;

Whereas a special postage stamp saluting the Sesquicentennial of Florida will be circulated throughout the United States during 1995; and

Whereas Florida is proud of its heritage and looks forward to its future: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. SALUTE BY THE SENATE.**

3 The United States Senate salutes the State of Florida on the sesquicentennial anniversary of Florida becoming a State Friday, March 3, 1995.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMEMORATION BY CONGRESS.**

7 The Senate calls on the joint Congressional leadership of Congress to agree on an appropriate time and manner to honor the State of Florida, in recognition of the achievements of all the men and women who have worked hard to develop Florida into a great State, from pioneer days to modern times.

13 **SEC. 3. COMMEMORATION BY THE PRESIDENT.**

14 The Senate calls on the President to issue a Presidential message calling on the people of the United States and all Federal, State, and local governments to commemorate the sesquicentennial anniversary of Florida becoming a State with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

19 **SEC. 4. COPIES OF RESOLUTION.**

20 The Secretary of the Senate shall send this resolution to the Florida Congressional delegation, the Governor of Florida, the National Archives, and the Florida Archives.

